

In re Patent Application of:
ROBERT M. HERRIN
Serial No. 10/721,962
Filing Date: 11/25/2003

In The Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Brief Description of the Drawings and Photographs

[0007] A preferred embodiment of the invention, as well as alternate embodiments are described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings and ~~photographs~~ in which:

[0030] With reference again to FIG. 1, an in-feed conveyor 130 may be used for conveying the blank 200 to the first position 106. ~~BY~~ By way of example, one embodiment may include the conveyor 130 placing the blank 200 at an angle 132 to vertical, and thus in a non-vertical orientation for permitting gravity to slidably hold the blank against a surface of the conveyor while conveying the blank on a rotating belt 134. It is to be understood that the apparatus 100 may be operated with the blank entering at a horizontal orientation as well as the angle position herein described.

[0038] With the partially formed tray 206 secured in the second position 108, as illustrated with reference again to FIG. 4, by way of example, the platen 102 is retracted and the folding of the top wall portions 232 and the outside corner support members 238 commence. With reference again to FIG. 2, and to FIGS. 10 and 11, the first folding arm 120 is operable for folding the top wall portion 232 about the fifth fold line

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236 to a position generally parallel to the bottom panel 210. The side fold portion 246 is partially folded about the sixth fold line 240 by passing through the passage 126 formed by the spaced ~~compressed~~ compression plate 122 and the fixed plate 124. As earlier described, the compression plates 122 are moveable for biasing against each of the side fold portions 246. A squared inside corner is illustrated by way of example in FIG. 10, wherein a squared corner platen 103 would be employed.

[0040] With reference to FIGS. 12 - 15, a forming of the outside corner support members 238 commences with the second folding arm 128 rotated against the end fold portions 244, folding them about the sixth fold lines 240, and biasing the end fold portions against the end panels 212. With reference to FIG. 12, by way of example, the second folding arm 128 includes an axis of rotation 128A generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation 120A of the first folding arm 120. As illustrated with continued reference to FIG. 12, by way of example, an edge 245 of the end fold portion 244 is guided onto the end panel 212 along a surface 125 of the fixed plate 124 for orienting the end fold portion 244 in a preferred orthogonal relation to the bottom panel 210 for enhancing the load bearing strength of the tray 202, as earlier described. A final compression phase includes the compression plate 122 folding of the partially folded side fold portion 246 and compressing thereof as illustrated with reference to FIGS. 16 -18. Compression forces act upon each corner of the fully formed tray 202 with the compression plate, the

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first and second folding arms, and the locking arm each providing opposing forces to compress the adhesive against respective tray surfaces, as further illustrated with reference to FIG. 19 including a partial top view of the double glued wall construction. As will be understood by those skilled in the art, the controller 148 earlier described with reference to FIG. 1, ~~a controller~~ is operable with drive devices 170, as illustrated with reference again to FIGS. 2 and 3, for each of the platen 102 ~~drive~~, the compression plate 122, the first folding arm 120, the second folding arm 128, and the locking mechanism arm 168 for a timely movement ~~thereof~~ for each of these element to contribute to the folding of the blank 200 into the partially formed tray 206, and into the fully formed tray 202, as herein described. With such, the fully formed tray 202 may be released from the frame 112. As illustrated with reference again to FIG. 2, a glue-setting phase may be provided as herein described, by way of example, with reference to a magazine styled frame 172 which receives the fully formed tray 202 stops 174, such as that of the locking arm 168 are released to permit a subsequent tray being formed to push the fully formed and glued tray into the magazine styled frame 172. The magazine styled frame 172 includes framing elements 176 that form an aperture for receiving the tray having an increased outside dimension as a result of the folded corner construction.